

Vol. 46—No. 39

November 26, 1955

Church of Christ

# Evangel



# The Question Box

NOTE: All questions addressed to "The Question Box" must be signed if they are to receive a reply. However, names will be withheld from publication if requested. Only the questions considered of general interest will be answered in the EVANGEL.

**QUESTION:** Why did God hate Esau before he was born (Romans 9:13)?—Mrs. Winnie Stucher, Brownfield, Texas.

ONE OF THE ATTRIBUTES of God is prescience or foreknowledge. God's foreknowledge revealed to Him that "the elder shall serve the younger" (Romans 9:12). This meant that Esau, the elder son of Isaac, would be subservient to Jacob, the younger son. This was the election of God and this is that which was ordained before the two were born. Verse 13 reflects God's attitude after the boys were born and grown. This attitude was because of their deeds. By ordination or election God chose Jacob to be over Esau, but because of Jacob's faith God loved him while because of Esau's evil he was hated.

**QUESTION:** What is the difference in a Christian who is baptized in the Holy Ghost and a Christian who is not? Is there a difference in their status in glory, and why does God anoint some Christians and not others? Do you think that all the early Christians were anointed with the Spirit and spoke in other tongues?—George Wallis, Forest, Ontario, Canada.

SIMPLY STATED, the baptism of the Holy Ghost is an endowment of spiritual power which makes a Christian capable of more effective service (Acts 1:8). Some receive this anointing from God and others do not for the simple reason that some seek the experience while others do not. Most assuredly, the baptism of the Holy Ghost does not make a person any more a child of God than he is when he is born again. As for the early Christians, there is no positive evidence concerning the proportion of those who were baptized with the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues. It is very strongly pointed out that all the Christians were made aware of the experience—as the Ephesian believers in Acts 19. Remember that a Christian should seek this experience in order to gain something, not to escape something.

COVER PICTURE—Philip Gendreau

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## Church of God Evangel

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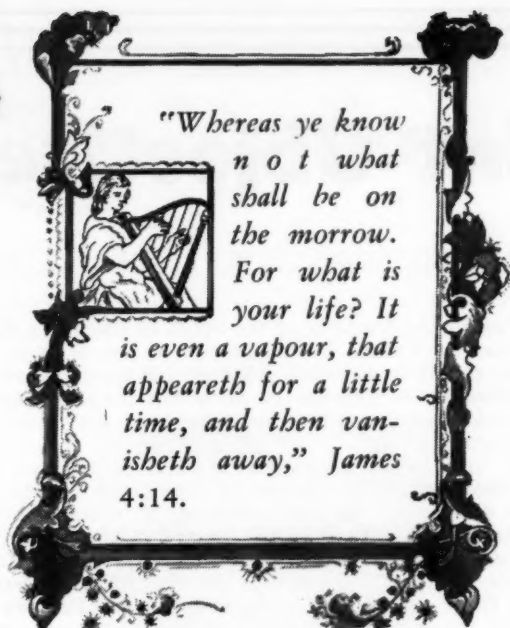
#### WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saint's feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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# what is your life?

*Man's most important question*

By LOUIS H. CROSS  
Pastor, Elizabethton, Tennessee

**W**E HAVE BEEN SPEAKING to you concerning a question found in James 4:14, "For what is your life?" In the last broadcast we spoke to you about your present physical life. Today I would like to ask a very important question, "What is your religious life?" Why do you attend church? What motivates your religious activities?

In Ezekiel 33:32 we find a vivid description of the religious life of some persons and their attitude toward God, "*And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not.*"

There is something extremely beautiful about a religious worship service, the voices blending together in hymns, the prayers, the Word of God. It is beautiful to see a family, the mother, father, and children making their way to the house of God on Sunday morning. Many of our churches are blessed with lovely stained glass windows that strike us with awe. The chords from the organ have at once a soothing and a stimulating effect. I have no criticism of these beautiful things. I wish that the budgets of all of our churches could provide the inspiring equipment. There is more to worship, however, than a beautiful song, beautiful words, beautiful buildings, or beautiful thoughts. In obedience can come that which exceeds beauty.

In 1 Peter 1:18,19, we find these instructive words, "*Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your father; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*"

Why is your religion what it is? Do you attend worship for the beautiful buildings, for the beautiful music, for the beauty of corruptible things bought with silver and gold? They will not provide redemption.

Why is your religion what it is? Is it because of tradition? The religious experience of your father and mother will not provide redemption for you.

There is a story in the third chapter of St. John of a young man who probably possessed many beautiful things. He had been able to see many things of beauty, since this young man, the Pharisee named Nicodemus, was a ruler of the Jews. Nicodemus saw in Christ something more than beauty, so he made an inquiry of Christ. Christ instructed Nicodemus, "*Ye must be born again.*" Evidently Nicodemus was a good clean man, but that was not sufficient. There must come a change in his life. There is no redemption in goodness; there is no redemption in beauty; there is no redemption in a worship service unless it points to the Cross of Calvary. In that Cross and in the shed blood of Jesus Christ there is redemption. Hallelujah!

He is more than a lovely song; He is more than a pleasant voice; He is more than beautiful music. You may go to a concert and thrill to the intricate composition executed to perfection by the artist, but when you return home all will be the same. You may go to the seashore or to the mountaintops and behold with exultation the wonders of God's creation, but when you return home all will be the same. It is possible for you to go to the beauty of a worship service and return home to the same old life. Yes, you can go faithfully Sunday after Sunday, year after year, and return to the same old life.

What is your religious life? Is it only a very lovely song? It can be more. 2 Corinthians 5:17, "*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*" After you have partaken of the new birth that Christ recommended to Nicodemus, after you have accepted Christ as your personal Saviour, you will not return to the same old things. Life will not be the same any more. You will be a new

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# Paul's Four-Point Objective

By F. M. RUSSELL

**P**AUL'S CHRISTIAN MINISTRY was perfectly balanced. Like a chair it rested firmly on its four supports. There are three-legged stools and tables; there is a combination umbrella, cane and stool, which has only one leg. Planted in the sand on the seashore, the owner sits on the little round disk, rests himself, and gazes out upon the great ocean.

So it is in the Christian experience. Some have a three-fold, some a two-fold and many have only one objective. Paul's objective was four-fold. His Christian life and ministry stood firmly on a four-point revelation. His gospel was the highest and most comprehensive revelation of Christ given to man so that he could say with divine assurance and authority, "Be ye followers of me even as I am of Christ." When he spoke of "my gospel" he meant that clear and full revelation of Christ given to him in the desert during those three years of his retreat and direct communion with God. His knowledge of Christ came not through personal contact with the Saviour but by pure heavenly revelation. His gospel is the Church's authority in doctrine and government. Said a veteran preacher, "One can judge a Christian by his acceptance of the Pauline Gospel." That is, the degree of his acceptance of the truths expounded therein.

## THAT I MIGHT KNOW HIM

Paul's first concern was to keep his standing in Christ secure, his experience with the Lord clear, his soul spotless, and to follow Him in still closer fellowship and deeper knowledge of the risen Lord. "Oh, that I might know him and the power of his resurrection . . ." he cried. Unlike the church at Ephesus Paul never let slip his highest love for God, his deepest experiences, his untarnished communion with the Lord Jesus Christ. The Searcher of hearts never had to say of him, "I know thy works, thy patience, thy purity of doctrine, thy untiring labors for me, yet I have somewhat against thee . . . thou hast left thy first, thy sweetest and highest love for me." Paul's great zeal for the work never overshadowed his personal fellowship with his beloved Master. Ever following after Him, he strove to win the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

## TO BUILD UP THE CHURCH

In Paul's letters to the churches there is found a completeness of doctrine for faith, and of admonition, correction and instruction for Christian living. The Church should be fed on the strong meat and life-sustaining food of the Epistles. In Romans Paul lays a comprehensive foundation of doctrine. In Galatians he warns against false teaching and legalism. Ephesians lifts the soul into the heavenlies, the place provided for the believer in Christ. Philippians leads the believer into the joy of cross-

bearing in the humility of the Spirit of Christ. In Corinthians Paul drops the plumb line of holiness into an erring church to correct misconduct and carnal behavior. In Colossians he pictures the perfection of Christ, and in Thessalonians he assures the believer of the return of the Lord in Glory.

Not only in his letters did he strive to build up the churches, but in his prayers he strove and labored for their perfection. "My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you," he wrote to the assembly that had been led into legalism away from simple faith in Christ. And to the Philippians he wrote, "For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ." He loved his people with the passionate love of Christ as he prayed and labored for their perfection.

## THE REGIONS BEYOND

Paul's labors in other lands have won for him the distinction of being called "the greatest of all missionaries." His heart was burdened as he saw people given over to the worship of idols. He compassed land and sea to carry the gospel to every creature, and he could truthfully say, "From Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ." He suffered hardship, sorrow and indignity in his journeys to reach the heathen, the gentile world. He could never sit in "the heavenlies" smugly enjoying his position in Christ, blind to the vision of a lost world. His gospel, which is Christ's, cries, "Come unto me," then commands, "Go into all the world and take the good news to every creature."

So often one hears of an assembly which was struggling beneath the burden of a heavy indebtedness being awakened by this command to an outflowing of love and giving to missions; and then under the favor of God, beginning to prosper in proportion to their zeal for foreign work. The great People's Church in Toronto is a classic example of this fact. Deeply in debt when the pastor, Dr. Oswald Smith, came to its pulpit with a passion for souls and for missions, it has become the "greatest missionary church in the world." It has long since emerged from its burden of debt, and each year gives more and more to foreign missions until it has enabled nearly 400 missionaries to go to the regions beyond. Following this example of putting missions first, other small struggling assemblies have proved that God has smiled on their venture of faith and has done exceedingly abundantly above their expectations.

## TO THE JEW FIRST

Paul's passionate love for the gentiles did not overshadow nor dim his love for Israel. His first thought was always for them, his brethren according to the flesh. Ever

(Continued on page 10)

# Man and missions

From the Foreign Missions Executive Secretary's Desk, 1080 Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tennessee—PAUL H. WALKER.

## MY INTRODUCTORY TRIP TO MEXICO



By J. HERBERT WALKER, JR.

**Y**ESTERDAY, BROTHER Hargrave and I returned from a ten-day visit through Northwest Mexico. Together we visited thirty-six churches and saw souls saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost. My heart was made glad as I saw Brother Hargrave working among the people. They love him and receive him with great joy. Following are several outstanding events, each of which is very interesting.

At Guadalajara, Brother Hector Raygoza and his wife have been laboring faithfully for over a year. This is a large city, the capital of the state of Jalisco. Although it is a Catholic stronghold, it could become the headquarters for a good Church of God district. In our service, of the twenty present only two were Christians, except for the pastor and his wife. After the preaching Brother Gonzales gave the altar call and every sinner came for prayer. We are now having services in a room of an apartment house, but we have hopes of renting the building of the Congregational Church. Please help us pray that this building may be secured. It is located downtown and is a very nice construction.

At Culiacan the people are worshipping in a small building which is completely enclosed by the walls of their new church under construction. I know you will be interested in learning how this work began. Brother

Patron, the pastor of Ciudad Obregon (a city which is located about three hundred miles north of Culiacan), came to Culiacan with his entire family and lived under a tree with them. He preached daily and was happily getting by until the rainy season came. During this season the tree provided little shelter and it was at this time that he was visited by the territorial overseer, Brother Fernando Gonzales. Brother Gonzales, being touched by the situation, returned to his office and made known the situation to Brother Hargrave. Ten dollars was sent to Brother Patron to help him in securing suitable quarters for his family. A few days later Brother Patron wrote that he was happy to report that the Church of God in Culiacan now had a roof over it. He had taken the money and unselfishly used it for the church. He bought some corrugated felt paper which was cheap but often used for roofs in that section. Today the walls are at window height and the pastor, Brother Jose Gastelum is very active and probably will have the building finished soon.

We saw many churches which have been built by the members themselves. Some have had loans of from fifty to one hundred dollars which have been repaid. Others had no outside financial assistance at all. They have true Christian spirit and are moving forward, showing the same love for the Church of God as you would see among some of the churches in the states. At Ciudad Obregon we were especially impressed with the mission offering. About 300 people were present. Yet \$377.50 (pesos) were received in the offering. (An average worker receives 8 to 10 pesos a day.) Brother Hargrave tells me that during the annual territorial convention around \$4,000 (pesos) is received for Missions. We thank God for this mission zeal. They themselves have children which are missionaries in Honduras, Costa Rica, and distant parts of Mexico. At Ciudad Obregon, we are located one block from the central park of the city. Plans are drawn for the building of a new church in this place and construction is to begin next month.

The largest church we visited is in Hermosillo. Sister Mary Atkinson, our missionary to Mexico, is there. Much work done in this area has been through her efforts. We had a good service which reminded me of revival time at home. People were shouting, praying, and praising God. The next night at Nogales we had another wonderful service. Again the altar was filled. One young man received the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

**WE WERE ACCOMPAINED** on this journey by Brother Fernando Gonzales, who is at present the Overseer of Northeast Mexico. It has been five years since he was overseer of the Northeast section and this was his first visit to the Northwest since leaving. We were happy to see the real love the brothers and sisters had for Brother Gonzales. In every church we visited he was hugged, kissed, and made over. He told experiences which were very encouraging.

His conversion illustrates God's love for us, even when we were yet sinners. On March 19, 1933, on a Sunday night God led him to the Ciudad Obregon church. Every weekend from Friday to Monday he would get drunk. This weekend it was the same but on Sunday he ran out of money. Unable to get credit, he went home for supper. It had been so long since he had been home on Sunday

(Continued on page 10)



## Sinned Without Law — Perish Without Law

By LUCILLE SETTLE WALKER

SOME PEOPLE LIKE TO TAKE Paul's words in Romans 5:13, "But sin is not imputed where there is no law," and confront the missionary with the question—"Why then go to the heathen? In going do you not make his judgment more severe in case he rejects the greater light?" To the latter part of this question we will answer, "Yes." The greater light one has and rejects, the greater guilt one has.

The person who proposes this question does not see all heathen as *Already Guilty*. He assumes for them a state of innocence or ignorance with no condemnation. This is not at all the true picture. In Chapter five Paul goes back to Adam and states that "until the law" or even before the law, *Sin Was in the World*. That is, through Lucifer and the fallen angels, sin was in the world; but sin was not imputed to man until there was some kind of law and transgression of such.

Now, there are more kinds of law than one. There is the written law which the Jews guarded zealously and worshipped more intently than they worshipped Yahweh. This is often referred to as the Law of Moses. Paul speaks to us of another kind of law—that of the conscience. It is often difficult for us to think of the conscience as a law since the word law connotes exterior constraint to us. To better understand Paul, we might even exchange the word law for light. Instead of saying the law of the conscience, the law of the law, and the law of faith in Christ, we might as easily say the light of the conscience, the light of the law, and the light of the gospel of faith in Christ. So there is no man without some light or some law. Christ said, however, that if the light within us had become darkness, how great was that darkness!

When man fell in the garden of Eden and lost his innocent, perfect state with God, he lost many things,

indeed; but he did not lose the knowledge of God and of good and evil. Paul says in Romans 2:14,15 "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by *nature* the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a *law unto themselves*; which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their *Conscience* also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another."

Matthew Henry calls the conscience "that candle of the Lord which was not quite put out." When Adam sinned he still retained his knowledge of God and acquired a sense of guilt. And it is a known fact today that into whatsoever tribe you may go, regardless of how remote, you will find there a knowledge of a supreme being or beings and a desire to worship. These ideas may not harmonize with the Bible—their light may have become darkness—but still they are not left without a witness.

So we hear Paul say in Romans 2:12, "For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law." Why did Paul say *sinned*? At this time he was talking with the Jews and to them "the law" meant the Law of Moses. And so we see the Gentiles who sinned not against the written law of which they were not informed, were nevertheless guilty of *sinning*. In the next verse he says "they are a law unto themselves." They have the law of their own consciences.

And then what did Paul say? Did he say "they shall be set free without the law, or they shall escape without the law"? No! Paul said, "they shall *perish* without the law." So we see that they do not live in harmless innocence, unjudged, and uncondemned before God. *We see that the knowledge they have is sufficient to pronounce guilt but not sufficient to declare deliverance.*

AND THIS IS WHY we are missionaries. This is why we are sent to bear a message—not of condemnation and guilt but of *the way of salvation*. Our message is of forgiveness and deliverance. Jesus himself declared that he came not to condemn the world but *that the world through Him might be saved*.

The heathen live in the fear of the supernatural and in a desire to worship the supernatural but lack the light of the gospel of Christ—the law of liberty by faith in Christ. He has lost fellowship with God but not consciousness of God. *He suffers the conscience of sin, so shall we, without the joy of salvation?*

A condemned man needs not have it reiterated over and over that he is condemned. He needs deliverance from his present state of condemnation and the means of remaining delivered. Paul tells us that Christ is not only this way out, but "there is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus;" also, "that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day"; and that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus.

We go because the world has sinned and suffers under the weight of condemnation, and *we know the cure*—the only cure—the Lord Jesus. Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." He is the Light that dispels all darkness. And we take the Word of God which offers to them a new birth certificate in the beautiful words of 1 John 3:2 "*Beloved, now are we the sons of God,*" for "*He was manifested to take away our sins: and in Him is no sin,*" 1 John 3:5.



THE

notice

BULLETIN BOARD

## CHRISTMAS; THE WORLD'S MOST GLADDENING SEASON

**W**E ARE GIVING opportunity this year, not by a personal Christmas letter as heretofore, but through the pages of the *Evangel*, so that each individual reader may make a Christmas contribution to the cause of Foreign Missions.

The Missions Department would like to send a special Christmas gift to the missionaries. It would gladden their hearts to know the folk at home were remembering them. Also, we would like to make an extra effort to further the gospel abroad. What will your gift be to Missions this Christmas?

An evangel is "a message-bearer of the message, or news, of the Christian dispensation and the redemption of mankind through Christ as revelation of the grace of God."

The Apostle Paul said, "How can they hear without a preacher, how can he preach except he be sent." An evangel is one who proclaims the gospel message—an evangelist. *You May be That Messenger*. The need is so great. The harvest is so ripe. The fields are so wide. The reapers are so few and we have so little to fulfill the Great Commission to *Gladden the World at This Season*. Will you enhance your eternal reward by giving a liberal gift this year to the spreading of the gospel over the world?

The widow gave; God saw it. Stephen gave his life; God saw it. We are compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses who well may say, "We gave our lives, what will the Church of today give?"

Ask God right now by praying "*What Will You Have me Give as a Token of Your Gift of Your Son to the World That I May Make This Christmas the World's*

*Most Gladdening Season?*" We may not have much, but Paul said, "By our poverty making many rich"; and such a response will increase our heavenly treasures and make us glad.

### MR. CHINAMAN

With a sneer, the infidel said, "Mr. Chinaman, you say you're going to heaven; well who do you expect to see there? Mr. Chinaman answered, "First I will see Jesus who saved me."

Then the infidel said, "What will you do next?" Mr. Chinaman answered, "I'll see the missionary who brought me the everlasting gospel."

With a sneer worse than before, the infidel said "Mr. Chinaman, what will you do after that?" Mr. Chinaman answered "I'll find the good people who loved God enough to pay the way of the missionary to bring me the gospel, and I'll tell them that I am forever grateful and will rejoice with them through all eternity."

Dear reader, may each of us have a part in this work of God's grace.

This sincere appeal, which affords an expression of your love to God in spreading the gospel, is made early in order that your gift may reach the field before Christmas. If your gift is not designated, the Missions Department will send it to the most needy field.

Make your check or money order payable to the CHURCH OF GOD FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT, 1080 MONTGOMERY AVENUE, CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE, U.S.A. (An official, tax deductible receipt will be issued to each donor.)

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Excellent opportunity for qualified painter. Attractive starting salary with chance for advancement. Pleasant surroundings. Send application to Dana North & Son, Flat Iron Building, Cleveland, Tennessee.

Tear on dotted line and mail with your contribution

My gift for Christ this Christmas—to bring joy and gladness to the missionaries and for the spreading of the Gospel—is:

\$1.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
\$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_, or more \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

A few of the many needs are: a donkey or bicycle for the national preacher or worker; Bibles to be given for free distribution; the sending of Church of God literature to the world; the purchasing of lots; building of churches, compounds, etc., the supporting of national preachers; the supporting of Bible students in our mission schools.

(This is not intended to interfere with any state, district or local church quota.)

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# FAVORED BY GOD

By MRS. RUTH STARNES



*"... And who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Esther 4:14.*



GOD HAS A PLAN for everyone's life. How great a tangle some make of their lives simply because they do not seek God for that plan! So many are trying to build their houses upon the sand, without first laying the proper foundation. They go to great lengths to do something in the natural to gain favor with God. Many set their aim toward a good moral existence. Some try good deeds for their fellow man. You may circle around in the flesh all you please, adding every kind of self-righteous deed; yet, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. We must repent of sin, turn away from the sinning business, and by faith receive a born-again experience from God. It is only then we have a right to seek the favor and blessings of God. God does not excuse a person because of age. His standard for all classes and ages is holiness.

The book of Esther belongs to the times of Nehemiah and Ezra. It is called Esther because she is the principal character in it. The name of God is nowhere mentioned in this book, but His providential care of His people is certainly evident. The history of the reigns of Persian kings was duly chronicled in those days, and the events here narrated were, of course, recorded in the annals of the empire; so this book may be a translated extract from those annals. We do not know for certain who wrote this book, but some scholars believe it was written by Mordecai. The author is thoroughly acquainted with Persian customs, so it may very well be allowed that he was a resident of Persia. The date of the writing is also unknown, but the details show that he lived before the overthrow of the Persian power in 331 B.C.

The Persian name Esther meant a star. The Hebrew name for Esther is Hadassah, which means myrtle. Esther was a beautiful Jewish maiden brought over with the captivity. She was an orphan brought up by her relative, Mordecai, who had an office in the household of Ahasuerus, king of Persia, recognized as the Xerxes of history; and he dwelt at Shusan, the palace. No one, by birth and circumstances, seemed further away from being a queen than Esther; for no matter how high her station in life had been in Judah, here in Persia she was only a slave. In the mysterious providence of God, however, the most unlikely things happen.

It is impossible to guess what might have happened to the Hebrew nation had there been no Esther. Except for her, Jerusalem might never have been rebuilt, and there would have been a different story to tell to all future ages. It was Esther's marriage to the king of Persia that gave the Hebrews enough prestige at the Persian court to enable Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem. If this nation which God had been carefully nurturing through the centuries for the purpose of blessing the whole world, and which had been almost wiped out by the Assyrians and Babylonians, had been completely exterminated before it brought the Saviour into the world, there would have been some difference in God's plan and in the destiny of man. We find in the book of Esther how God's providence watched over the Jews who were scattered in the provinces of the heathen, even though it seemed they were doomed to destruction.

THIS STORY BELONGS to the time of the return from captivity. It opens about half a century after the first caravan left Babylon amid great rejoicing, and entered Jerusalem. The fact that the action of the book culminates in the establishment of the popular national



feast of Purim, and that it is a standing memorial of that feast, argues for its historical truth. It contains a narrative of a plot laid against the Jews to cut them off, but which was wonderfully disappointed by a concurrence of providences. Though the name of God is not mentioned His hand is seen directing many minute events for the bringing about of His people's deliverance.

In the third year of the reign of Ahasuerus, he made a feast unto all his princes and servants. The pomp and magnificence of his court was great, and the pride of his heart arose when he thought of his own greatness. He put himself to vast trouble to give this feast to show the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honor of his excellent majesty. During this elaborate feast the people drank wine from vessels of gold. When the king's heart was merry with wine, nothing would serve him but that Vashti must come to display her beauty before the crowd, for she was fair to look upon. It was against the custom of the Persians for the women to appear in public, and Vashti refused to obey the king's summons. Therefore, the king's anger burned within him. When he consulted his private counsellors, one advised him to divorce the queen and to make a decree in writing that every man should bear rule in his own house, lest other women follow Vashti's example. This advice pleased the king, so the business was carried out.

After a time the king's anger died down, but by the constitution of the government the judgment given Vashti was irrevocable. His servants suggested that the king choose another queen from among the young virgins of the kingdom. This pleased the king, so an order went forth that maidens should be brought to the palace under the custody of his appointed servants. A house was prepared for them, and a person appointed to have charge of them to see they were well provided for. At this time Mordecai arranged for Esther to be brought in with the other women as a candidate for the crown.

Esther was fair of form and of a good countenance. She pleased her custodian who showed her many kindnesses. He gave her the necessary things for her purification and her raiment. When Esther's turn came to go before the king, he fell in love with her at once. Esther 2:17, "And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti." Who would have thought an orphan, a captive, a Jew, was born to be a queen!

After these things, Haman was promoted in the kingdom. The king's servants were commanded to bow down to him. Mordecai, though urged by his friends to obey the command, refused to bow down to Haman. By this act of resistance he declared his faith in God. He was a Jew and could not in conscience to God bow down to man. His refusal was pleasing to God even though it caused the angry Haman to work out a plan to try to destroy all the Jews. Esther 3:8, 9, "And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them. If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed . . ." The king, not knowing Esther was a Jew, granted the request of wicked Haman, and a day was set for the execution of all Jews.

**ESTHER RECEIVED WORD** of all that was going on from Mordecai. He told her she must appear before the king in behalf of herself and her people. The law forbade anyone to come before the king unless they were called. If they did so anyway, they could be put to death unless the king held out the golden sceptre to that person. Esther realized the seriousness of the situation and called a fast for all the Jews as well as for herself and her maidens. She knew it was not according to law for her to go before the king, but she said, "If I perish, I perish." With the piety and devotion that became an Israelite, Esther sought to save her people.

When the time appointed for their fast was finished, Queen Esther stood in the inner court of the king's palace, dressed in her royal apparel. She received a favorable reception from the king. When he saw her he protected her by holding out the golden sceptre, which she touched, thereby presenting herself to him as an humble petitioner. God can turn the hearts of man toward His people in time of crisis. He can make even our enemies to be at peace with us if we but trust in Him.

Later at the banquet table, Esther made her request to the king. She said, "If I have found favor in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition and my people at my request. For we are sold under bondage, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish."

King Ahasuerus had given his ring to Haman; the order for the slaughter of the Jews was made and sealed with the ring, and it could not be changed according to the law of the Persians. However, the king granted Esther's request by proposing another message and signing it with his signet ring. By this message, the effect of the first was practically made void because the Jews throughout the kingdom were given the privilege to be fully armed against any who might seek to do them wrong. The result was that, instead of the Jews being slain, their enemies fell on every side. Mordecai was honored by the king, while Haman and his ten sons were hanged on the gallows he had prepared for Mordecai. The wicked are snared many times by their own hands.

The sorrows of the Jews were turned into joy because of Esther's intercession for them. They had a time of feasting now instead of fasting as before. They also gave gifts to one another while they were enjoying this time of rejoicing. One woman's courage caused a Jewish nation to be spared. Esther was favored by God, and God gave her favor with man.

We may receive like blessings today if we serve God in sincerity and truth. If we court the favor of God we must live a life of self-denial, separating ourselves from the sinful things of this world, putting God first in all we undertake to do. We need wisdom from God to accomplish any worth-while task.

God often calls men from a low station in life for some great task. Their beginnings may have been small, but when God trains a person, He equips him with the necessary power to accomplish the work. The wisdom which comes from God is more to be desired than fine gold, for the perishable things of life will one day fade away. We look often at the outward appearance of a talented person and marvel at the ability he has; if we could see behind the scenes we should see many hours, days, or perhaps years of toil for that person to develop the talent he possesses.

God desires young and old to come to Him in full sur-

render. As we turn the reins of our life over to Him we can experience the blessings of a fruitful life. Time offers a challenge to every mortal being. We are building our character each day. We determine whether we shall be useful or whether we shall fail. The only way to have the approval of God is to yield ourselves completely to His care. Let us go forth in faith and prayer to make our lives count for God and eternity.



### WHAT IS YOUR LIFE?

(Continued from page 3)

person, a more valuable person, a happier person.

What is your religious life? In the new birth brought by faith in the precious blood of Christ we can have a beautiful experience; we can have a thrilling experience; we can have a moving experience; we can have a renovating experience. We can have not only a new life now, but we can have with it the firm promise of a new life to come.

Won't you accept Him as more than a beautiful song? Won't you accept Him as more than the beauty of well-played instruments? Won't you accept Him as more than the source of beautiful words on Sunday morning? Won't you accept Him in the fullness of life that He has prescribed for us in the new birth? Let Him plant a song not only in your ears, but in your heart. Let your religious life give you an entirely new outlook. Let Him make you a new creature in Christ Jesus!



### PAUL'S FOUR-POINT OBJECTIVE

(Continued from page 4)

after he definitely turned to the gentiles, he never deviated from his custom of first visiting the synagogue in whatever place he found himself and endeavoring to preach the gospel to the Jews. "To the Jew first," was God's order, and it never became a forgotten or changed command in his ministry. "I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren . . . who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, . . . and the promises . . ." He understood quite well God's purpose for Israel and the great part they are to have in this world, the mighty impact their ministry will have when they are grafted into their own olive tree. "For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?" His soul was continually burdened for his blinded people. If only the veil upon their hearts were lifted but for a moment that they might catch a glimpse of the glory that had opened his blind eyes!

How few there are today who have even a faint concern for Israel, even a prayer for their salvation! Blind to God's promises concerning them, ignoring His order for the Church's ministering to every creature, and "to the Jew first," Israel is one of God's mysteries, evidently understood by only a minority of His followers. When that mystery is unveiled, God's peculiar love for Israel is revealed, and the heart feels a touch of that divine concern for their salvation. A new light is thrown on His Word

as His purposes for His ancient people are better understood. Said an English bishop to whom this mystery has been revealed: "The Church that has no place in her program for the Jew cannot truly be called the Church of Jesus Christ." Some who see this mystery clearly believe that the Church's failure to evangelize the world has been because of her neglect of these people, of failing to follow the divine command, "to the Jew first."

In Paul's letter to the Romans in which he so fully expounds the doctrine of God's grace, he leads the believer on from forgiveness of sins into the life of victory over sin and self in chapters 6, 7 and 8. Then he stops abruptly, changes his theme, and in chapters 9, 10 and 11 unfolds the state of Israel, their partial blindness, their casting off for a season, and their ultimate return to God through the "mercy of the Church." It would seem that he is saying: "I have taught you the life of holiness in Christ and of your high calling in Him, but wait! You cannot go on to perfection without opening your heart to God's purposes for Israel, without seeking to understand the mystery hidden in this people."

Paul's objectives in his Christian walk planted him firmly on a four-square, solid foundation. He did not stand on three feet nor on two; nor did he sit on his one-legged seat gazing out over the ocean of God's great love and grace, enjoying the delights that are in Christ with no loving concern for the Church, for the heathen world or for blinded Israel, God's ancient people who someday will bring untold blessing to the world. To his son in the gospel he wrote: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." In other words, "Be sure that your doctrine is balanced and that you preach the whole counsel of God."



### MAN AND MISSIONS

(Continued from page 5)

evenings that he could not remember how long it had been. While eating he heard singing. Being an especially good singer himself, he decided to go where they were singing and teach those folks how to sing; but as he tells it, those folks did the teaching. He was the first one to go to the altar and God gloriously saved him.

In less than a year he was preaching the gospel and has been one of the most successful of the Church of God ministers in Mexico. At the time of his conversion there were only two Churches of God in Mexico with a membership of less than fifty. Today we have over 450 churches and a membership of more than 10,000. Brother Gonzales has been responsible for organizing many of these churches. We thank God for men like him. God is blessing his work. He is at present the overseer of the territory with the smallest number of churches and members. Yet in fifteen months the membership has doubled. We request your prayers for him that this territory will continue to make good progress.

This trip covered over 3,600 miles. In some sections we were happy to find a Church of God in every town that we passed. However, we traveled hundreds of miles where there was not a single Church of God member. The thing

that really burdened our hearts was the visit to five small churches which are without pastors. The members are holding on faithfully but are pleading for a pastor. Truly the harvest is ripe, but the laborers are few. Please pray that we can find pastors in order that the Church of God can continue its forward progress in establishing the Kingdom of God.

We thank God for our new appointment to the Latin American field. In November and December we will be busy with the annual conventions in South America. Pray that God will give us wisdom and will direct our activities for His best interest, wherever we are working.

#### SOCKRIDER

The sweet spirit of Mrs. Audie Sockrider took its flight into the great beyond on September 5, 1955, to be forever with the Lord whom she served so long. She was 79 years old and a faithful member of the Church of God in Milford, Delaware. She was laid to rest in the Lincoln Cemetery to await the resurrection of the just.—Clara Darby, Clerk.

#### HEAD

Mrs. Lou Ellis Head departed this life on September 26, 1955, at the age of 37. She was a member of the Church of God in Nocatee, Florida. She leaves to mourn her departure her husband, Russell Head, and five children between 18 months and 15 years of age. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Westberry, have been faithful members of the Church of God for 45 years. Sister Head's chair will be vacant and a loving spirit is gone, but we look forward to the resurrection morning when all of God's children shall meet together. The funeral was conducted by Brother F. F. O'Bannon, Brother John C. Padgett, and Brother J. F. Culpepper, her present pastor.—Mrs. Frank Culpepper, her Sunday School teacher.

#### GRAYSON

Brother Grayson of Florence, Kentucky, passed away May 18, 1955. He leaves to mourn his departure his wife, Mrs. Lelia Grayson.

#### MILLER

Jesse A. Miller, 86, a member of the Church of God at Washington, Pennsylvania, for a number of years, departed this life August 5, 1955, to be with Jesus whom he loved, served, and trusted to the end. He had been in failing health for several years, but through all of his sickness he seldom complained and often talked of going home to be with his Heavenly Father. He leaves to mourn his passing, one son, three daughters, and a host of friends and relatives. He was laid to rest in West Finley Cemetery. Funeral services were conducted by A. A. Lynch and J. L. Nuzum of Washington, Pennsylvania. We look forward to meeting him on the shore of sweet deliverance.—Lottie Rankin, his daughter.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN EVANGELISTIC PARTY

The state of Kentucky was blessed to enjoy the evangelistic services of the Grobler and Leibenburg party who have been in the States for some two or three months.

The churches they visited in this State were most pleased to have them because they are deeply spiritual, good singers and musicians, and Mrs. Grobler as well as Brother Leibenburg are wonderful preachers. Every congregation, where they visited in this State, was greatly impressed with their type of services and was most blessed to have them. Any church will do well to invite them and keep them for at least ten nights or two weeks.



#### WAGGONER

Mamie Pearl, daughter of William and Rebakah Cummins, was born in Lawrence County, Illinois, on April 11, 1893, and departed this life in Hanover Indiana, October 14, 1955, at the age of 62. On August 30, 1911 she was married to Alva M. Waggoner to which union were born fifteen children. Her husband and three of the children preceded her in death. About 31 years ago she was converted, and about 1926 she was sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost, and became a charter member of the Church of God at Chauncey, Illinois. In later years she moved her membership to the Church of God in Bridgeport, Illinois, and remained a member until her death.

She leaves four sons and eight daughters—Stephen and Coy, of Kokomo, Indiana; Charles, of McLeansboro, Illinois; Clarence, of Enfield, Illinois; Mrs. Alberta Hamilton, of Flora, Illinois; Mrs. Bonnie Schermerhorn and Mrs. Helen Crouch, of Bridgeport, Illinois; Mrs. Vivian Lee, Mrs. Katherine Ash, Mrs. Verlin Ash, and Dorothy, all living at their temporary home in Hanover, Indiana; and Crystal Reeves, of Harrison, Ohio. Also, she leaves two brothers and three sisters—William and Virgil Cummins, of Hammond, Indiana; Mrs. Rebakah Isom, of Hammond; Mrs. Ola Parrot, of Chauncey; and Mrs. Anna Polk, of Bridgeport, Illinois; 49 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and many other friends and relatives who mourn her passing. The funeral was held at the Church of God at Chauncey, Illinois. Brother Kenneth Moore, assisted by Brother Stanley Joplin and Brother Jack Pope, officiated.

#### BRAY

On September 15, 1955, God carried a faithful soldier and Church of God member to his reward. Ray Bray, of

Clinton, Illinois, bore the testimony that he was ready when God needed him. His car collided with a freight train, and he was killed at the age of twenty-one. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Duene Bray, who is the daughter of Reverend and Mrs. Curtis Austin; his parents, Brother and Sister Carl Bray; two sisters; and three brothers. The funeral was conducted by his pastor, Brother C. M. Newton, who was assisted by Brother Johnny Warren.—C. M. Newton.

#### PICKELSIMER

Goldie Pickelsimer, born March 13, 1923, departed this life to be with Jesus on October 28, 1955. She is survived by her husband, Frank Pickelsimer; four children—Camille, Joyce, Linda, and Clifford; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Adams; and the following brothers and sisters: Monroe Turley, Ella Adams, Hiawatha, and Hurschel, all of Harts, West Virginia. Sister Pickelsimer had been a faithful member of the Blair Church of God in West Virginia since July, 1954, and the life that she lived was an inspiration to all who knew her. Her departure from this life was sudden, but, in her final hours, she left the beautiful testimony that she was ready to go. We look forward, by faith, to the time when this family shall be reunited around God's great throne.—Robert Maxwell, Pastor.

#### GODFREY

On October 8, 1955, the Lord called Sister Martha Godfrey of Binger, Oklahoma, home to be with Him. She passed away quite suddenly with a heart attack. Even though Sister Godfrey was 77 years old, she was an active member in the Binger Church of God until the very last. She was faithful in every department of the church. She leaves to mourn her passing her husband, Brother Geo. L. Godfrey; four children; ten grandchildren; and thirteen great-grandchildren. Her funeral was conducted by her pastor, Brother J. P. Simms. We look forward to meeting her some day in that land where death will be no more.—Mrs. J. P. Simms.



# reports

## THE RIVER ROUGE CHURCH OF GOD, RIVER ROUGE, MICHIGAN



The River Rouge Church of God is progressing under the leadership of our good pastor, Brother E. B. Rose. Our Church Building was purchased in 1952 by Brother M. P. Cross, who at that time was our State Overseer. John Rathbun, Jr. was assigned as Pastor, a Church was set in order, and members were taken in October 1952. Twenty came forward and joined the Church at that time. Since then God has wonderfully blessed our work. Our membership had grown to forty-six when Brother Rose was appointed as our Pastor on September 1, 1954. Our membership now stands at sixty-eight.

We purchased a parsonage for the sum of \$11,000 in September 1954. We borrowed \$3,000 for the down payment, of which we have raised \$2,000 and kept our payments up on the parsonage and church in the amount of \$190 a month. Lately, we made a drive to raise the balance of the down payment which was due October 1, 1955.

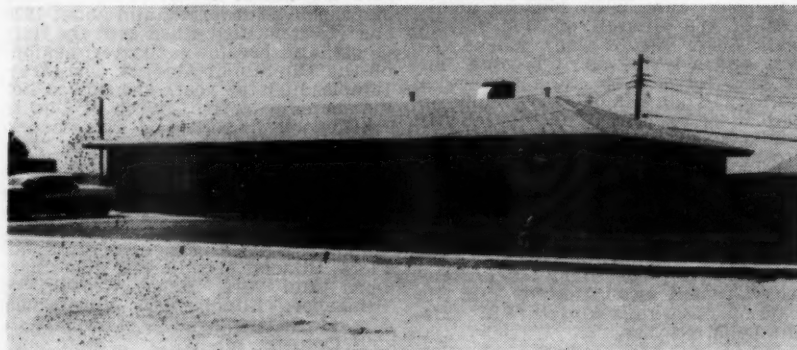
God has wonderfully blessed us in all departments. We had sixteen in Sunday School the first Sunday, and at the present time we have a record attendance of one hundred and eighty-nine. We are having good attendance at our Y.P.E. services, and we are grateful for Sister Vivian Cagle, our Y.P.E. President. With her courage and faith in God, she is a blessing to our youth.

Under the leadership and untiring efforts of the President, Sister Aryella Roberts, our L.W.W.B. has done much to help pay off our indebtedness. We have a singing the fourth Sunday in each month and the L.W.W.B. serves chicken dinner in the basement of the church.

We are now in a revival with Brother Harvey Rose who is doing the preaching. One has been saved, 4 re-

claimed and 1 filled with the Holy Ghost.—Sherman E. Donahue, Sunday School Superintendent.

## NEW MEXICO'S NEW STATE PARSONAGE



Due to the strategic location of Albuquerque, which is almost in the center of the state of New Mexico; and because of the size of this great city (approximately 180,000—one-sixth of the state's population), as well as the need that our church work be strengthened in Albuquerque, in the western and, especially, the northwestern part of the state, the ministers unanimously agreed to move the state headquarters from Roswell to Albuquerque.

This beautiful four-bedroom brick house is located in a new subdivision of Albuquerque. It is built in the center of two lots, located on a corner (10015 Menaul Boulevard, North East). It has a large kitchen with built-in mahogany cupboards, a large living

room, four bedrooms (one which may be used as a den or dining room), one and three-fourth baths, two heating units, a utility room, office, and garage. The door on the left will be the entrance to the office when it is completed.

Since moving into the new parsonage, we have built yard walls (back and side); installed a sprinkling system; planted shrubbery; and sowed grass on the lawn.

The total cost of the property to the Church, including improvements, is approximately \$14,000; however, it has been appraised for a much higher figure than this.

This property is a credit to our church work in New Mexico.—Rev. Brady Dennis, State Overseer.

# revivals

## Great Numbers Healed in Meeting

CLINTON, S. C.—Recently, we enjoyed a sweeping revival. The mighty moving of the Spirit of the Lord brought great crowds of spiritual-hungry people to the church. Our pastor, Brother E. D. Johnson, after much fasting and praying, felt led of God to conduct his own revival and God certainly set his approval upon the meeting. Night after night the house was filled as is evidenced by the picture of a typical Saturday-night crowd. The gospel was preached with great spiritual fervor and God confirmed the Word with signs following. Testimonies of the great numbers who were healed by the power of the prayer of faith have poured into the

church office.

Also, we have witnessed a mighty and authoritative ministry of faith and power over unclean spirits. People bound hopelessly and enslaved for years by tobacco, dope, and sexual lust, by their own admission, were loosed by the power of God and set free. Demons were cast out in Jesus' name. As a result, many who had suffered frustrations, fears, and perplexities, even to the point that many were and had been contemplating suicide, were liberated from these torments. Their testimonies prove that there is better things to be enjoyed by God's people than a life filled with unresolved frustrations and fears.

Over the three-week period, 101 were saved. These people came from all over South Carolina, and even from North Carolina. Many were sanctified and 39 were baptized in the Holy Ghost. Churches all around were blessed and the memory of this great visitation of the Spirit of God shall be long. Churches of other denominations in this area have members who seemingly have adopted our pastor in looking to him for prayer now that they have seen for themselves so great a moving of the power of God. Revival is in the Clinton area and people are being saved in their homes and healed almost every day. We covet your prayers that this mighty visitation from the Lord will increase in intensity until Jesus comes.



## Fifty Persons Fill Altar

ALABAMA CITY, Ala.—We are having a wonderful revival with Brother Billy Franklin as the evangelist. During the first week fifteen persons were saved, and on the second Sunday night more than fifty were in the altar. Every night this week, except one, one or two people have received the baptism of the Holy Ghost.—A. V. Beabe, Pastor.

## Lady Evangelist Leads Great Revival

SADDLE TREE, N. C.—Recently, we had one of the greatest revivals ever held in our church. The Lord was with us each night, and it was just like being in a good camp meeting. On several nights the Lord completely took charge of the service and the evangelist did not get to preach. The evangelist was Sister Dorothy Petty of California. She really did some good old-time Holy Ghost preaching and singing. Twenty-five were saved, 19 sanctified, 18 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 17 added to the Church. Please pray for us. Any church will be blessed by having Sister Petty, who is a fine Christian woman, for a re-

vival. She may be contacted now at Lumberton, North Carolina.—Carson Bell, Clerk

## Missions Emphasis in Revival

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga.—Sister Jimmie Burgett of Birmingham, Alabama, was the evangelist who conducted a recent revival for us. Sister Mary Lou Paul assisted her in special singing. This was a wonderful revival. The entire church was stirred as well as blessed. Twelve were saved, 9 sanctified, and 4 filled with the Holy Ghost. Several are expected to be received into the Church later. Sister Burgett has a soul-stirring ministry that will do any church good. Several nights there was no preaching as the precious Holy Ghost took charge of the service. She also preached a soul-stirring missions message which made our church more missions-minded than ever before. We really thank God for sending her our way.—Ruth Staples, Pastor.

## Church Attendance More Than Doubled

CLEVELAND Ohio—The Clark Avenue Church of God truly thanks and

praises God for the wonderful three weeks' revival we have recently had. Brother A. H. Tribble of Ravenna, Ohio, was the evangelist, and he delivered the messages under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Eight were saved, some were sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost, and 6 were added to the church—2 new members and 4 transferred. Our Y.P.E. attendance more than doubled and our Sunday School attendance went from 37 to 81 in the three weeks. We praise God for sending Brother Tribble our way. We recommend him to anyone for a real old-fashioned revival. Pray for us that the revival spirit will continue in our midst.—U. P. Gray, Pastor.

## Great Revival in Lenoir

LENOIR, N. C.—Billy Franklin has just conducted a very successful revival here with 33 saved, 15 sanctified, 4 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 10 added to the Church.—J. R. Esom, Pastor.

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# religious news



## SALOONS NOW OUTNUMBER CHURCHES IN U. S.

Dr. Caradine R. Hooton, executive director of the Methodist Board of Temperance, has asked the nation to consider the implications inherent in the fact that there are "141,733 more saloons, bars, cocktail lounges, and liquor stores than the combined total of churches, synagogues and temples."

Moreover, he asserts, "Church-building is running a losing race with saloon-building."

Dr. Hooton quoted Internal Revenue Service figures showing that as of June 30, 1955, there were 277,466 retail liquor dealers and 164,323 retail beer dealers doing business in a grand total of 441,789 establishments dispensing alcohol. But the latest issue of the *Yearbook of American Churches*, he pointed out, lists the total number of religious establishments at 300,056. He emphasized the fact that more than 5,000 new liquor outlets were opened in the three months ending June 30, while the number of churches increased by only 5,697 over the entire YEAR OF 1954.

## BILL TO PROHIBIT AIRLINE LIQUOR SERVICE PROMISED

Senator J. Strom Thurmond (D.-S. Car.) told leaders of the Women's Christian Temperance Union that he has asked the Civil Aeronautics Administration to prohibit the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages aboard commercial airliners. Mr. Thurmond said he is prepared to introduce appropriate legislation in the Senate to effect such a ban if the CAA fails to act.

Earlier, Representative Thomas J. Lane of Massachusetts had said he would introduce a bill in the House of Representatives to ban what he called a "growing practice" of serving liquor in flight.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.—The Reverend Atwood Foster, 47, of Salem, Oregon has been named general treasurer of the Assemblies of God to fill the vacancy left by the death of the Reverend Wilfred A. Brown. The new treasurer will assume his duties December 1.

General Superintendent Ralph M. Riggs, who announced the appointment, stated that the Reverend Foster

will officially assume duties in December but will not move to the national headquarters until February.

## COMMUNIST ATTITUDE TOWARD RELIGION REMAINS UNCHANGED

The Soviet "new look" has not changed the Communist attitude toward religion. A recently monitored broadcast by Radio Volga, a Soviet station in East Berlin, dismissed religion as "the highest nonsense and sick fantasy."

The following is an excerpt from this broadcast:

"The Communist party of the Soviet Union... cannot remain neutral toward religion. It fights religion in the same way it does other outlived and harmful opinions and traditions."

"It is clear that each religion is one means for the intoxication and spiritual subordination which exists in antagonistic societies. Religious opinion is not only senseless and absurd, but pernicious for the workers because it stifles their brains, disorients them and pushes them toward the wrong way."

Dr. Caradine R. Hooton, executive secretary of the Methodist Board of Temperance, noting that the total net paid circulation of U. S. daily newspapers refusing to accept alcoholic beverage advertising in any form has

been placed at 5,605,374, said: "The papers that have refused alcoholic beverage advertising have demonstrated unquestionably that newspapers can prosper without this type of business. The press can fulfill its function as a public service agency without the influence of liquor."

## RELIGIOUS SPOTLIGHT



THE SWANK BAHAMA SHORES YACHT CLUB, OF ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA, IS NOW A RELIGIOUS HOME FOR THE AGED OF ALL FAITHS.

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- Go from house to house to sell "Evangel" subscriptions. Explain why you are selling them. Also explain why the "Evangel" is a perfect Christmas gift.
- After getting enough "Evangel" subscriptions to earn the gift you have chosen, make a list of all subscriptions, making certain that all addresses are correct.
- Mail your subscription list, money for subscriptions, and the coupon below to: Church of God Publishing House, Cleveland, Tennessee.
- Your work is done—sit back and wait for your gift award.



- It is one gift with 50 reminders.
- It is a gift with an inspiring and encouraging message.
- It is a Christmas gift for only \$1.50.
- It is a gift that will not only mean a perfect gift for someone else but will help you toward earning the gift of your desire.



Club subscriptions do not count towards earning awards.

Church of God Publishing House  
922 Montgomery Avenue  
Cleveland, Tennessee

I am enclosing \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Evangel subscriptions at the rate of \$1.50 each.

For these subscriptions, please send me \_\_\_\_\_ as my own gift award.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

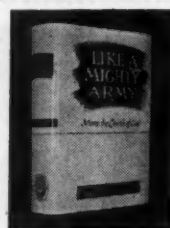
St. or Box No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

This offer good for November and December only!

Be sure to enclose this coupon when sending your "Evangel" subscriptions for prizes.



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List \$2.00

1956 Sunday School Lesson Commentary  
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List \$57.50

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Yours for only 65 "Evangel" subscriptions

## OTHER GIFTS

Two Ball Point Pens \_\_\_\_\_ List \$3.00  
Yours for only 4 "Evangel" subscriptions

Oak Sunday School Register Board \_\_\_\_\_ List \$15.50  
Yours for only 50 "Evangel" subscriptions

Matthew Henry Commentary \_\_\_\_\_ List \$24.50  
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Silvestri Piano Accordion, List \$299.00  
Yours for only 450 "Evangel" subscriptions